

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 DRC-01 INRE-00 MC-02 /113 W

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O 060839Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1449

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

JCS IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

CINCUNC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 8216

JOINT EMBASSY/UNC MESSAGE

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, KS, KN

SUBJECT: APPLICATION NORTH KOREAN DEMAND TO NON MILITARY
VESSELS

REF STATE 238291

1. WE HAVE DOUBLE CHECKED TRANSCRIPT OF 346TH MAC
MEETING, AND ALL OF MANY NORTH KOREAN STATEMENTS
AT MEETING REGARDING "VIOLATIONS" OF THEIR TERRITORIAL
WATERS SPECIFICALLY REFER TO NAVAL VESSELS, ARMED
SPY SHIPS AND ARMED BOATS, OR BOATS DISPATCHED
BY MILITARY AUTHORITIES. THEY MADE NO MENTION AT MAC
MEETING NOR HAVE THEY ELSEWHERE TO INCURSIONS OR
VIOLATIONS BY NON MILITARY CRAFT. NONETHELESS, IN
KEY SENTENCE IN THEIR SUMMARY STATEMENT AT THE MAC
MEETING, WHERE THEY DEMANDED THAT UNC SIDE SEEK
PERMISSION TO SAIL TO AND FROM UNC CONTROLLED ISLANDS,
NORTH KOREANS DID NOT SPECIFY TYPE OF VESSELS
THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT. ORIGINAL KOREAN TRANSCRIPT
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AND TAPES OF NORTH'S ENGLISH TRANSLATION AGREE ON THIS POINT.

2. DESPITE FACT THEY HAVE CITED ONLY MILITARY CRAFT AS HAVING VIOLATED TERRITORIAL WATERS, IT IS PRUDENT TO ASSUME NORTH KOREANS MAY APPLY THEIR DEMAND TO NON MILITARY AS WELL AS MILITARY VESSELS, INCLUDING FERRIES, SINCE SENTENCE CONTAINING ACTUAL DEMAND IS NOT SPECIFIC. EVEN IF NORTH DOES PLAN TO MAKE DISTINCTION BETWEEN NON MILITARY AND MILITARY CRAFT, WEEKLY FERRY/SUPPLY BOAT CONVOY TO PYONGYANG-DO COULD CONCEIVABLY GET CAUGHT UP IN A NORTH KOREAN ACTION DIRECTED AGAINST ROK NAVAL PATROL BOAT WHICH WILL ACCOMPANY CONVOY AS IT ALWAYS HAS IN THE PAST. ALSO ARGUING FOR ASSUMPTION THAT NORTH MAY APPLY ITS DEMAND TO NON MILITARY BOATS IS FACT THAT NORTH HAS REGULARLY IN PAST PICKED UP CIVILIAN FISHING BOATS FOR ENTERING ITS TERRITORIAL WATERS. MOST RECENT CASE IS JAPANESE FISHING BOAT, "SIN-JU-MARU", PICKED UP NOVEMBER 1 NEAR SUN-WI-DO JUST OFF HAEJU AND RELEASED DEC 5. UNDERHILL

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Message Attributes

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